GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1342
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016
Pending Court Cases
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai;Gaikwad Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath;Jena Shri Rabindra Kumar;Kataria Shri Rattan Lal;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Kumar Shri Kaushalendra;Patel Shri Dilip;Rajbhar Shri Hari Narayan;Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva;Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan;Tripathi Shri Sharad;Vichare Shri Rajan Baburao ;Yellaiah Shri Nandi

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of criminal and civil cases pending in the Supreme Court, High Courts and Subordinate Courts indicating separately the number of cases which are pending for more than ten years;

(b) the number of cases disposed of by these Courts during each of the last three years and the current year, Court / State / UT-wise;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the reasons for delay in disposing of cases which are pending for more than ten years;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof along with the remedial measures taken / being taken as a result thereof; and

(e) the other measures taken / being taken by the Government to address the issue for expeditious disposal of pending cases?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) to (e): Data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information made available by the Supreme Court of India, details of civil and criminal cases pending in the Supreme Court of India; and civil and criminal cases pending for more than 10 years in the Supreme Court of India; and number of cases disposed of by the Supreme Court of India during the last three years and the current year are as under:-
Number of Pending Cases as on 19.02.2016 Number of Cases pending for more than 10 years up to 19.02.2016. Number of Cases disposed during last three years and current year upto 19.02.2016
Civil Criminal Civil Criminal 2013 2014 2015 2016
48,418 11,050 1,132 84 40,189 45,042 47,424 6,054

As per information made available by High Courts, details of pending cases in High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts are as under:-

Number of Pending Cases in High Courts as on 31.12.2014 Number of Cases pending for more than 10 years in High Courts as on 31.12.2014 Number of Pending Cases in District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2014 Number of Cases pending for more than 10 years in District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2014
Civil Criminal Civil Criminal Civil Criminal Civil Criminal
3116492 1037465 589631 187999 8234281 18254124 611658 1432079

The details of cases disposed of during 2012, 2013 and 2014 by the High Courts and District / Subordinate Courts are given in the Statements at Annexure − I and Annexure − II respectively.

Some of the main factors responsible for pendency of cases in courts are increasing number of state and central legislations, accumulation of first appeals, continuation of ordinary civil jurisdiction in some of the High Courts, vacancies of Judges, appeals against orders of quasi-judicial forums going to High Courts, number of revisions / appeals, frequent adjournments, indiscriminate use of writ jurisdiction, lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing.

The Chief Justices' Conference held on 03rd and 04th April 2015 has resolved that each High Court shall establish an Arrears Committee to clear the backlog of cases pending for more than five years. As per information available, Arrears Committees have been set up in the High Courts of (i) Allahabad, (ii) Bombay, (iii) Calcutta, (iv) Chhattisgarh, (v) Delhi, (vi) Himachal Pradesh, (vii) Jammu & Kashmir, (viii) Jharkhand, (ix) Kerala, (x) Madhya Pradesh, (xi) Madras, (xii) Manipur, (xiii) Meghalaya, (xiv) Orissa, (xv) Patna (xvi) Punjab & Haryana, (xvii) Sikkim, (xviii) Tripura, and (xix) Uttrakhand.

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Annexure-I
Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Un-starred Question No. â€ 1342 dated 03.03.2016 regarding Pending

Court Cases.
Cases disposed of in High Courts during last three years

Sl. No	High Court	2012 Disposal of cases	2013 Disposal of cases	2014 Disposal of cases
1	Allahabad	2,47,539	2,36,821	3,10,294
2	Andhra Pradesh	66,130	58,278	66,239
3	Bombay	1,74,020	1,40,761	1,30,580
4	Calcutta	78,428	1,34,938	95,656
5	Delhi	35,656	35,371	40,154
6	Gujarat	63,778	64,450	74,444
7	Gauhati	35,713	30,308	27,467
8	Himachal Pradesh	37,772	36,455	62,270
9	Jammu &Kashmir	16,380	24,916	23,151
10	Karnataka	1,21,624	1,28,134	1,19,824
11	Kerala	78,801	68,871	72,173
12	Madras	2,46,200	2,31,817	1,29,954
13	Madhya Pradesh	1,00,281	1,11,348	1,29,373
14	Orissa	81,388	70,262	76,523
15	Patna	91,328	82,343	1,04,955
16	Punjab & Haryana	1,08,266	1,11,465	1,14,801
17	Rajasthan	1,31,277	1,27,928	83,792
18	Sikkim	126	140	230
19	Uttarakhand	13,616	15,661	13,386
20	Chhattisgarh	27,817	28,206	28,155
21	Jharkhand	30,030	25,970	22,327
22	Tripura*	0	4,379	5,144
23	Manipur*	0	2,677	1,926
24	Meghalaya*	0	1,418	1,724
Total		17,86,170	17,72,917	17,34,542

*Operationalisation of High Court was notified on 23rd March, 2013.
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Annexure-II
Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Un-starred Question No. â€ 1342 dated 03.03.2016 regarding Pending Court Cases.
Cases disposed of in District and Subordinate Courts during last three years

Sl. No	States	2012 Disposal of cases	2013 Disposal of cases	2014 Disposal of cases
1	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	6,06,447	5,14,867	6,47,130
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7,355	7,444	7,615
3	Assam	2,39,706	3,14,672	2,76,138
4	Bihar	3,04,786	3,15,586	3,05,583
5	Chhattisgarh	1,62,104	1,79,065	1,76,144
6	Goa	33,886	30,717	30,625
7	Gujarat	10,72,123	11,37,159	11,32,433
8	Haryana	7,33,591	6,08,315	5,87,385
9	Himachal Pradesh	2,46,052	2,93,575	4,09,732
10	Jammu & Kashmir	2,91,100	3,07,192	2,97,507
11	Jharkhand	1,23,777	1,18,076	1,10,068
12	Karnataka	10,35,706	10,17,437	13,67,041
13	Kerala	11,12,342	11,71,821	13,55,926
14	Madhya Pradesh	12,17,733	12,73,437	11,13,382
15	Maharashtra	20,48,255	17,10,180	15,36,322
16	Manipur	14,572	16,189	14,257
17	Meghalaya	2,982	3,284	11,691
18	Mizoram	11,747	10,270	10,747
19	Nagaland	3,179	3,062	3,047
20	Orissa	3,00,337	4,14,772	4,70,085
21	Punjab	7,58,927	6,11,671	5,49,300
22	Rajasthan	11,50,808	11,99,745	11,32,028
23	Sikkim	1,913	2,146	2,008
24	Tamil Nadu	14,99,884	18,44,056	16,45,329
25	Tripura	1,48,688	1,58,838	1,93,003
26	Uttar Pradesh	27,98,690	29,66,521	31,82,318
27	Uttarakhand	1,78,409	2,22,318	2,20,660
28	West Bengal and A & N Island	9,92,367	11,84,289	10,89,309
29	Chandigarh	1,38,558	1,53,772	1,80,616
30	D & N Haveli and Daman & Diu	8,451	3,344	2,771

31 Delhi 9,18,683 9,57,154 9,30,732
32 Lakshadweep 96 93 95
33 Pondicherry 33,899 32,479 28,631
Total 1,81,97,153
1,87,83,546
1,90,19,658

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